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December Digital Arts & Technology Cluster Minutes

Plymouth State University

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WHO?

Who was in attendance? (faculty, staff, which departments)


Who shared a project?

Who seemed to be emerging as a leader or “key player” (include some notes on why—quotes are always good!)

Who self-identified as interested in taking the lead on a project/cluster?

Who seemed to be good at determining next steps?

What external partners were suggested for each project?

WHAT?

What were some projects that were shared?

What was the content of the main discussion?

What were identified as next steps?

What outcomes would there be from each projects?

WHERE?

Describe the time, date, location of the session
  - Monday, December 14 at 4:08 p.m. HUB 109

Where does this cluster appear to be going?

WHY?

What was said that suggests why the projects discussed would fit within the same cluster?

What comments were made that hints at a conceptual definition of the cluster?
What rationale was presented about projects?

What seems to be the ROI on projects?

HOW?

What details were shared about ways the project would be carried out?

How would students, faculty, partners be engaged?

What resources are needed to keep things moving?

How soon could each project be ready to go?

How does each project seem to support a shared view of the cluster?

WHAT ELSE?

What would you say were the key outcomes of the session?

Include any other information that would help someone not in attendance to understand the outcomes of the session?

Interdisciplinary Projects – Cluster Ideas

- Laure Morris – MWM. Interdisciplinary, digitizing content.
- Paul M – MTD project with Amanda, Matt Kizer, and Jonathan Santore – digital performance. Projection mapping. Need to figure out how to include music and narrative.
  - Amanda W - Nick S. sculpture and creating a space that interacts with the technology and the students. Students creating material, design, movement, stories. Play writing, creative people. Applying this concept to people with disabilities. Bringing that technology/concept to local schools. MTD new way of working – unfolding together instead of separately. Could they develop new teaching tools or techniques. Partners – schools, hospitals, rehab centers, physical therapy, athletic training, other universities or arts organizations. Internally – multiple stakeholders.
  - Take that technology and put it on an xbox remote and make it more like gaming. Shows for YouTube vs. stage. Augmented reality.
  - Paul M - Combine performances in different venues, using something like Skype.
  - Amanda W & Paul M - Resources – money, facilities, time, technology, space to perform and to leave the equipment set up. Equipment – projectors, software.
  - Need technician to train people to use the technology and be responsible for upkeep. Technology component is where 3D is heading. Modeling done with free programs now, can do this work with
iPhones. Endless number of projects with science, math, communications around a central theme where people create things that are interactive. That’s where digital humanities comes in. We haven’t begun to scratch the surface of that potential.

- Nick – We’re behind on 3D printing because things are happening so quickly. Other department equipment needs support too. Eliminate space where people are working on a floor plane. Need computer science people who can work with the technology. Rich G – feeds into game development. Karolyn – medieval students who are interested because of gaming. Connect with arts and programming. Rich G – then bring in writing and story telling, music and sound, marketing. Rebecca T – then bring in other business components, financial analysis, accounting.

- Pam A – Student Design Company - outreach with community/town. GD students work on real jobs for clients. Get real-world experience. Expanding – where there’s a collaboration with English for writing, Marketing Communications and Creative Services. Started small and now blossoming. Do mostly print, but starting to push toward the web. Julie B - Communication and media studies to do film with someone’s website. Jim H – should we be charging for these services. Does financial affairs need to be involved. Nick S – managing expectations of clients if we’re charging for services.

- Cynthia Robinson - 10,000 steps project at the KDAG. Several on-campus projects. Began as simple idea and became a monster. Interdisciplinary project – many departments in Art involved. Brian Eisenhauer. Paired visuals with text and incorporated into exhibit. Worked with GEO and integrated project into International Education Week. Gathered stories about water from international students. Philosophy Department partnered as well with some interactive activities and a video.

- Nick S - No social media on project. How could Communications and Media Studies Department have participated?
- Maria S – first- and second-year students had experience of applied philosophy.
- Amanda W – could that installation be outside in a natural landscape for people to interact with?
- How to take project and bring it outside of the PSU community?

Future Projects
Maria Sanders – entertainment industry ahead of us. Multiple labs where we have, instead of traditional classrooms, the students would step “into Athens.” Rethink what she considers our empty spaces on campus that aren’t contributing to the learning experience. Turn every area on campus into learning experience. Students changing what’s happening based on what they contribute to it. Have stuff going on in the hallways. Rich – paint a wall chromakey green.

- Chris Drever – our education should be like Disney World. Keep people engaged as alumni, show your kids what you did, put it into a portfolio.
- Phil Lonergan – give students idea it’s a digital presence. Through blogging or something else it’s just not a individual thing. Students need to see learning as problem solving. Info turning over quickly – idea that students are self-learners is key.
- Jim – ways to reinforce GenEds through redesign.


Nick S – Empty Bowls project. How can clusters solve big-world problems. Ceramics – make a bunch of bowls, charge nominal fee, Miss NH came and sang song, none of this was working. Need to tie people to the cause. Increase community engagement. Need philosophy help, performance, online presence about problems of hunger, ceramics on a larger scale. Makes students want to be involved. Coming up again next year, wants it to be more of a success. Need people to help move that forward.
· Gail – sometimes we do projects but they don’t connect big picture why we’re doing them. People don’t see the value.

Paul Mroczka – Greek project – UNH & Keene. Tragedies. Each campus gets to tour other campus. Monopolize PSU resources to enhance the project. No digital technology aspects to this. Raw idea – don’t even have much going at this point. Unusual project – happens once every 10 years.
· Karolyn – build a first-year seminar around it.

Moving forward
Rich G - Embrace a philosophy of sharing and reliance on each other
Paul M – Commitment. Need a physical space/neutral space to feel comfortable being creative, where exciting things can happen.
Maria – Create multiple places on campus, not just one. Time. Let ideas flow.
Karolyn – Protected spaces for people who have equipment that needs to secured.
Chris Drever – Building a maker space where project is open-ended. For students to pick up next tier of project goals. Not building for today, doing our part for what will eventually be what we will eventually do. Tamara C – PSU needs to keep up with the technology to support all these different ideas.
Phil L – credit system where students get credits for these types of projects, it’s not an extra, it’s built into the system.
Don B – shift three-credit to four-credit courses.
Evelyn Stiller – more of a connection to surrounding region/community. What needs are there and what can we do to support them. More engagement with community. Needs – as cluster emerges to have ability to put out feelers and notify community we’re receptive. Julie – so like a system to vet project ideas?
Rebecca Tower – try to do too many things at the same time, things end up competing for attention. Allowing students/community to vote on every year one social event, area, or topic that people want to learn about. Let clusters or disciplines provide own interpretation of that.
Besty Ayotte – do a better job capitalizing on grant funding opportunities to drive projects. Needs – dedicated staff looking for opportunities. Right now we don’t have anyone doing that. Grant researcher? Grant writer – involved in the work already.
Matt Kizer – better idea of what other faculty have for specialty areas. Solicit input from people on campus. What are people working on? Discussion board. Creating a database of skill sets and interests, searchable. (Rich, Karolyn, Betsy)
Laure Morris – financial resources. How these ideas enhance and connect with entrepreneurship, economic development, problems or needs in region. Match great ideas with investors who want to drive entrepreneurial... Would take a lot of external beating of the bushes to take an idea and sell it to potential investors. Takes external connections, skills to excite someone about an idea, decisive business plan, built into planning of projects.
Don B – once you brand yourself in the clusters and you communicate with the community, you build a reputation for these things, we get sponsors. Takes a while to get it going but it links us together as one team.
Heidi – Kickstarter functionality for clusters projects bringing together what people are asking for. Funding options, collaboration, function similar to something like facebook? Not open system that anyone can join, just for PSU. Matt Kizer – systems out there to support what you’re talking about.
Rich Grossman – could we develop idea of what ITS would need to put in place. What does it do, how does it work?

Closing
Who’s interested in this cluster – Paul, Matt Kizer, Phillip – Gail passed around list.

Developing a website, creating a project proposal form, dedicating steering committee, communications, and partnership member to each of the seven clusters.

**One next step for this cluster –**

Don B – space with the equipment needed to make it so people can come together and really brainstorming ideas.

Phil L – time. Plate is more than full. Need time to get ideas going and time to do the ideas.

Evelyn – hear from the community the needs. On or off campus. Matt Kizer – chambers of commerce in this area are shrinking. Rebecca T – what is the ECP's role?

Chris Drever – at what point do students get involved? They're our primary go to. Get involved in project and in making the space itself. Having them accomplish something at PSU. Engage students actively in this planning process. Involve Rotary.

Bill Bryer – can we be a support to the chamber or an alternative?